In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of handling errors in a system for receiving packet streams, the method comprising the steps of:
   ~~dynamically~~ enabling detection of a condition that identifies as an error a packet stream that is scrambled;
   determining if a received packet is scrambles; and
   performing an error recovery operation.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the packet stream is a transport stream packet.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the packet stream is a packetized elementary stream.

4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein as a result of performing the error recovery operation, the received packet is disregarded.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the received packet being disregarded includes the received packet being dropped.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the packet stream packet being disregarded includes the received packet being ignored.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~dynamically~~ enabling error detection includes enabling the error condition by asserting a register bit.

8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein determing includes determining if the header information of the received packet indicates scrambling.

9. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein determining includes determining if the payload information of the packet stream packet payload is scrambled.

10. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the payload information includes transport stream payload data.

11. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the payload information includes packetized elementary stream payload data.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of handling errors in a system for receiving packet streams, the method comprising the steps of:

~~dynamically~~ enabling hardware detection of a condition that identified an asserted indicator in a packet as a recognized error;

receiving the packet;

determining if the packet includes the asserted indicator; and

performing an error recovery operation when the packet includes the asserted indicator.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the packet is a transport packet.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the packet is a packetized elementary stream.

15. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein enabling includes enabling by asserting a register bit.

16. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the error recovery operation includes sending an error code to a video decoder to indicate the received packet has an asserted error indicator.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the error code sent to the video decoder includes sending the error code in a compressed video bit stream.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising ~~the step of~~:

maintaining an asserted error count, whereby the count is incremented when the received packet includes an asserted error indicator;

maintaining a packet count, whereby the packet count is incremented when the packet is received; and

determining an asserted error rate based upon the asserted error count and the packet count.

19. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein determining an asserted error code is performed in response to an external request.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of handling errors in a system for receiving a packet stream, the method comprising the steps of:

~~dynamically~~ enabling detection of a condition that identifies a continuity discrepancy as a recognized error;

determining if the continuity discrepancy exists by the substeps of:

receiving a continuity count from a first packet;

receiving a continuity count from a second packet;

determining if the continuity discrepancy exists based upon the continuity counts from the first and second packet; and

performing an error recovery operation when a discrepancy exists.

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21. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of:

maintaining a continuity discrepancy count, whereby the count is incremented when a continuity discrepancy is detected between the first and second packet;

maintaining a packet count, whereby the packet count is incremented to indicate the first and second packets are received; and

determining a continuity error rate based upon the continuity discrepancy count and the packet count.

22. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein determining continuity error rate is performed in response to an external request.

23. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:

generating an error indicator for transfer to a first external device.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, where external devices include a host processor as a first external device, MPEG video decoding engine as a second external device, and the first and second packets contain video datas.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of handling errors in a system for receiving packetized elementary streams, the method comprising the steps of:

~~dynamically~~ enabling detection of a condition that identifies syntax errors in a packetized elementary stream as a recognized error;

determining if a syntax error exists by

receiving a header portion of a packetized elementary stream;

determining if a predetermined syntax condition of the header portion is met, where the syntax error exists if the syntax conditions are not met; and

performing an error recovery operation when a syntax error exists.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, where the predetermined syntax condition is a fixed bit pattern.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, where the predetermined syntax condition is a value range.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, where the value range indicates a legal field length.

29. (Original) The method of claim 25, where the predetermined syntax condition is based on a previous packet.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, where the predetermined syntax condition is non-repeated packets.

31. (Original) The method of claim 25 further comprising the step of:

generating an error indicator for a video engine when the packetized elementary stream contains video data.

32. (Original) A method handling errors in a system for receiving packet stream packets, the method comprising this steps of:

receiving at least a portion of a packet;

determining if an error occurred based upon the portion of the packet;

sending an error indicator to video decoder processor when it is determined the error occurred.

33 (Previously Amended) The method of 32, wherein receiving at least a portion of a packet includes the portion of a packet including a transport packet header.

34. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein receiving at least a portion of a packet includes the portion of the packet being a packetized elementary stream header.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein determining if an error occurred includes determining if an error bit in the at least a portion of the packet is enabled.

36. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein determining if an error occurred includes determining if an error occurred based upon at least a portion of the packet.

37. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein determining if an error occurred includes determining if an error occurred based upon a continuity counter.

38. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the step of sending an error indicator to the video decoder processor includes sending the error code when at least the portion of the packet is at least a portion of a video packet.

39. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the step of sending an error indicator includes sending the error code in a video stream.

40. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 39, wherein the step of sending an error indicator includes sending the error code in a compressed video stream.

41. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the step of sending an error indicator includes the error code having a hexadecimal value of 0x000001B4.

42. (Original) The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of:
determining if an error occurred based upon an error signal.

43. (Original) The method of claim 41 further comprising the step of:
determining if the error occurred based upon an error signal.

44. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein sending an error indicator further includes sending the error indicator when the error signal is asserted after a packet identifier is received as a portion of the packet.

45. (Currently Amended) A system for handling packet stream errors, the system comprising:
an input for receiving at least a portion of a packet;
a parser having an input coupled to receive the at least a portion of the packet, and having an output;
an error generator having an input coupled to the output of the parser, and having an output to provide an error indicator; and
a compressed video data node coupled to the output of the error generator.